

## Message Text

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FOR CARTER

E.O. 11652: N/A

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SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

NO. 7

HEREWITH FULL TEXT NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE THURSDAY, JUNE  
16 HEADED "PROSPECTS DIMINISH FOR NEW ARMS PACT. (NO BY-  
LINE, BUT BY BERNIE GWERTZMAN.)

WASHINGTON, JUNE 15--THE PROSPECT THAT THE UNITED STATES  
AND THE SOVIET UNION WILL NEGOTIATE A NEW ACCORD ON  
STRATEGIC ARMS BEFORE THE PRESENT TREATY EXPIRES IN  
OCTOBER LOOKED UNLIKELY TODAY AS THE STATE DEPARTMENT  
ANNOUNCED THAT SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS R. VANCE AND  
FOREIGN MINISTER ANDREI A. GROMYKO WOULD NOT MEET AGAIN  
UNTIL SEPTEMBER.

ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS REFUSED TO TREAT THE APPARENT  
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FAILURE TO CONCLUDE A NEW ACCORD LIMITING LAND-BASED AND  
SUBMARINE-LAUNCHED INTERCONTINENTAL MISSILES WITH ALARM.  
THEY SAID THAT NEGOTIATIONS WOULD CONTINUE DURING THE  
SUMMER IN GENEVA AND WASHINGTON AND THAT THE PRESENT FIVE-  
YEAR ACCORD COULD BE EXTENDED TO ALLOW TIME FOR A MEASURED  
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS.

ONE OFFICIAL POINTED OUT THAT MR. VANCE HAD SCHEDULED A TRIP TO SEVERAL MIDDLE EASTERN COUNTRIES IN JULY AND A 10-DAY TRIP TO CHINA IN LATE AUGUST, ADDING THAT PREPARATIONS REQUIRED FOR THESE JOURNEYS AND THE TIME SPENT ABROAD MADE IT UNREASONABLE TO PROJECT ANOTHER VANCE-GROMYKO MEETING BEFORE SEPTEMBER.

THE OFFICIAL SAID THAT IT WAS SIMPLY NOT TRUE TO INFER FROM THE SCHEDULING THAT THE ARMS-LIMITATION TALKS WERE IN TROUBLE OR WERE NOT MAKING PROGRESS.

OFFICIALS ALSO REFUSED TO LINK THE PROBABILITY OF THE TREATY EXPIRING WITHOUT A NEW ACCORD TO SOVIET-AMERICAN STRAINS OVER HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE PUBLICIZED INTERROGATION IN THE LAST FEW DAYS OF ROBERT C. TOTH, THE MOSCOW CORRESPONDENT OF THE LOS ANGELES TIMES.

IN PRIVATE, SOME OFFICIALS HAVE CONTENDED THAT WITH MAJOR ISSUES STILL UNRESOLVED IT MADE NO SENSE TO MAKE A FULL-SCALE EFFORT FOR A NEW TREATY BEFORE OCTOBER. THEY ARGUED THAT SUCH AN ACCORD WOULD BE REGARDED BY CRITICS, REGARDLESS OF THE AGREEMENT'S MERITS, AS HAVING BEEN CONCEIVED IN HASTE.

MR. VANCE AND MR. GROMYKO MET IN GENEVA LAST MONTH AND AGREED ON A THREE-TIER APPROACH FOR OVERCOMING THE OBSTACLES REMAINING TO A NEW ACCORD. ONE PART WOULD BE A NEW TREATY TO RUN UNTIL 1985; THE SECOND WOULD BE A PROTOCOL LASTING FOR THREE YEARS TO DEAL WITH CONTENTIOUS UNCLASSIFIED

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ISSUES SUCH AS CRUISE MISSILES, HEAVY MISSILES AND THE SOVIET BOMBER KNOWN IN THE WEST AS THE BACKFIRE; AND THE THIRD, PRINCIPLES FOR A FOLLOW-UP TREATY.

AT THAT TIME MR. VANCE SAID HE AND MR. GROMYKO WOULD MEET AGAIN SOME TIME IN THE FUTURE. PRESIDENT CARTER TOLD REPORTERS THAT MR. VANCE AND MR. GROMYKO WOULD MEET AT LEAST TWICE MORE IN GENEVA BEFORE SEPTEMBER.

THE STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN, JOHN H. TRATTNER, SAID TODAY THAT THE TWO MEETINGS WOULD BE 'IN THE GENERAL TIME FRAME OF SEPTEMBER' AND THAT ONE MEETING WOULD BE AT THE UNITED NATIONS.

MR. GROMYKO TRADITIONALLY LEADS THE SOVIET DELEGATION TO THE FALL SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN

NEW YORK IN SEPTEMBER AND GENERALLY MEETS WITH THE AMERICAN SECRETARY OF STATE THERE AND OFTEN ALSO IN WASHINGTON.

PRESUMABLY, MR. GROMYKO WOULD COME TO WASHINGTON AND  
HAVE HIS FIRST SESSION WITH MR. CARTER.

MR. VANCE SAID ON MAY 4 THAT IF THE TWO SIDES FAILED TO  
REACH AN ACCORD BY OCT. 3, 'WE HAVE TWO CHOICES.'

'WE CAN EITHER EXTEND THE AGREEMENT IF THE SOVIETS ARE  
WILLING TO DO SO, OR WE CAN CONTINUE TO PROCEED WITHOUT  
AN AGREEMENT BUT ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT WE WILL CONTINUE  
AS IF THERE WERE A CONTINUING AGREEMENT,' HE SAID.

'I DON'T FEEL WE ARE FIGHTING ANY DEADLINE THAT IS GOING  
TO CAUSE US TO TAKE ACTIONS THAT ARE NOT WISE AND  
PRUDENT,' HE SAID." CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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